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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY 25X1

REPORT

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25X1

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b. At the southern end of the airfield there is a forest. The land to the west of this forest is a grassy, treeless area.

c. The rectangular object close to the north end of the airfield is the headquarters building. [REDACTED]

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d. The objects northwest of Keizerling Forest represent some sort of an electronic apparatus installation. [REDACTED] the apparatus is contained in three trucks (six wheels each, with tires removed) set up on wooden blocks and that such apparatus was visible to him from Pajuoste Plentas (Pajuoste highway), when the doors in the rear of the vehicles were opened. At times a buzzing hum could be heard emanating from the vehicles. Also situated near the trucks were two or three antenna-like towers, 33 to 50 feet high, and one wooden observation tower at least 33 feet high. Wires from the three trucks housing the electronic apparatus are connected with the antenna-like towers. [REDACTED]

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e. Pajuoste highway bridge over the stream is sturdily constructed, with a wooden plank surfacing, and is from 20 to 30 meters long. The bridge is wide enough for two cars to pass, possibly three. The eastern end of the bridge is three or four meters from the road which runs parallel to the airfield. Passage over the bridge is restricted to authorized persons only. Two military guards in air force uniforms are generally stationed at the bridge.

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a. [REDACTED] the only aircraft stationed at the airfield were twin-engine bombers with red stars on the undersides of the wings and tails. The bombers had twin rudders. [REDACTED]

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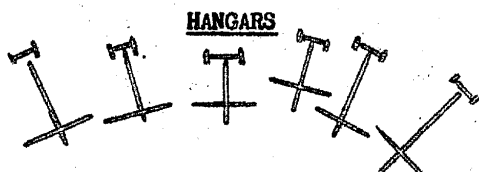
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b. [REDACTED] all the aircraft were parked at the northern end of the field, just below the hangars. [REDACTED]

from a distance it seemed that the planes were grouped in semi-circles in front of hangars, with the tails towards the hangars. Thus:



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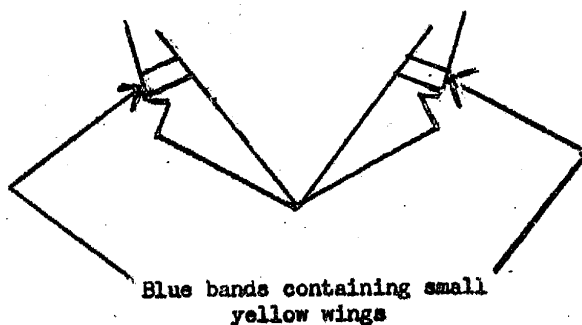
25X1 d. The runways were of concrete with a black asphalt-like material separating the concrete squares. [redacted]

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25X1 e. The height of the hangars on the airfield is not known [redacted] however, [redacted] they are of the same approximate height.

25X1 3. The following information about Panevezys airfield's personnel is furnished:

25X1 a. [redacted] airfield personnel wearing uniforms of the following description: light green shirt; tan tie; dark green trousers; dark green jacket; and a black-brimmed hat with a blue band around the crown. Silver-like wings were worn over the breast and a blue band containing small yellow wings appeared on each coat lapel, as illustrated below:



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b. Some personnel, mostly enlisted, are housed in buildings located north of the airfield proper (upper right section of sketch attached). Some officers live in the city of Panevezys, sharing quarters with civilians or having their own homes. These officers commute daily to the airfield by bus.

4. [redacted] information on the movement of material to the airfield:

25X1 a. In the spring and summer of 1950 [redacted] "many" bombs piled at a guarded siding at the Panevezys railroad station north of the city, and [redacted] moved to the airfield. The bombs were black and were crated in individual wooden containers about five to six and one-half feet long and about fifteen inches wide and deep. [redacted] Trains with military equipment, such as bombs, normally came to Panevezys from the direction of Siauliai.

25X1 b. [redacted] gasoline transport trucks going to the airport from the Panevezys railroad station [redacted] "frequently," [redacted]

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25X1 c. About July 1950 [redacted] numerous truck shipments of bags of cement, some loads of bricks, some loads of gravel, and one shipment of wooden sticks, going to the airfield. [redacted] the wooden sticks [redacted] about five feet long, one and one-half inches wide, and one-eighth of an inch thick. [redacted] these pieces of wood resembled the material used for framework of plaster walls. [redacted]

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5. In about July 1950 construction of new facilities at Panevezys airfield began. This construction involved:

a. Cutting trees and removing stumps with tractors in the forest south of the airport. Source observed this activity personally, the last time being the early part of September 1950.

b. Removing all vegetation and leveling the grassy area south of the airfield and west of the forest mentioned above. All this work was being done manually.

c. Excavating "large" and "deep" holes in the extreme south end of the existing airfield, between the bottom runway and the area under development. The dirt from this excavation project was used to fill the holes left after removal of tree stumps and general leveling in the area under development.

In width and length they should be measured in tens of meters. Since it was "generally known" in Panevezys, even before the construction began, that underground hangars would be built, these excavations were, in fact, the preliminary work for such hangars.

d. Widening to a surface width of about five feet and deepening of the existing drainage ditches between the road (running north and south) and the west side of the airfield area. This work began from the south boundaries of the airfield proper and continued southward.

e. higher wages, on the "concrete work" that was being carried on at the airfield.

"many people" said in July 1950 that the new airfield would not be finished for two years, but that, when it was completed, it would be the largest in the Baltic area. Because of the apparent future importance of the airfield, the people of Panevezys feared extensive bombing of the area and talked about the prospect of the city's being "razed to smithereens" in the event of a war. In January 1951, it was "general knowledge" that "much" work remained to be done on the airfield construction program.

6. There were about 2,000 persons employed in the construction activity. Among these were some workers from the Minsk area, who had previously worked on airfield construction projects in Minsk and in the Caucasus or Urals. These people were quartered somewhere on the airfield, but were not restricted as to their movements. Also employed were local residents, including women and children, who commuted daily to the airfield in trucks.

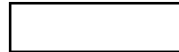
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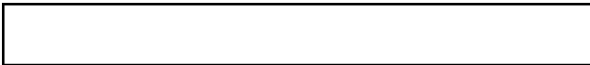
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8. [redacted] construction activity was taking place at Panevezys
25X1 airfield from several Soviet officers on a number of occasions in the
25X1 autumn of 1950 and later. [redacted]
25X1 [redacted] large blocks of wood, of approxi-
mately the same size and shape as railroad ties, were being shipped to
Panevezys airfield. These blocks of wood were in their natural state,
neither tarred nor treated in any other way.

25X1 [redacted] Comment: This statement may be an indicator as to one type of
aircraft to be stationed at the renovated Panevezys airfield, since, if the
"senior lieutenant" now in Kaliningrad returns to Panevezys, it may be
possible that his entire twin-engine bomber organization will return.

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